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Forests

Reduction in the number of Conservators of Forests.

*715 Q.—Mr. J. A. Saldanha: With reference to my question No. 165 answered on 26th August 1927 will the hon. the Home Member be pleased to state whether owing to the change in the Forest Conservancy policy the number of Conservators is going to be reduced and, if so, by what gradual process?

A.—The matter is under the consideration of Government

(716 Q.—Please see page 258 infra)

The hon. the President:—"The hon. Member is not in his place"

(Mr. Basheer Ahmad Sayeed wanted to put a supplementary question.)

The hon. the President:—"The hon. Member is requested to read the instructions printed at the first page of the list of questions and answers."

Civil Justice

Holding of the posts of Sarishtadar and head clerk by the members of the same community.

*717 Q.—Mr. R. Nagan Gowda: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(a) whether except in the districts of Anantapur, Cuddapah, Godavari, Madura, Malabar (North and South), Tanjore (East and West), Tinnevelly and Trichinopoly, the two ministerial posts, Sarishtadar and head clerk of the District Court are held by members of the same community; and

(b) if not, in how many and what districts of the Presidency the ministerial posts are held by members of the same community in contravention of the principle accepted in the Standing Order No. 128 of the Board of Revenue?

A.—(a) & (b) On 31st March 1927 the two ministerial posts of sarishtadar and head clerk of district courts were held by members of different communities in Anantapur, Chingleput, Cuddapah, Godavari East, Guntur, North and South Malabar, Tanjore West, Tinnevelly, Trichinopoly and Vizagapatam districts. The Board's Standing Order No. 128 is not applicable to the Judicial Department.

Mr R. Nagan Gowda:—"May I know why the principle that the Sarishtadars and head clerks should not be members of the same community is not applicable to the Judicial Department?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. Campbell:—"The Board's Standing Orders apply only to the Revenue Department."

Claims of Moslems for the post of acting High Court Judges.

*718 Q.—Mr. B. Ramachandra Reddi: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state why the Government have ignored the claims of Moslems with reference to the appointment of acting High Court Judges in spite of the repeated assurances that were given in the Legislative Council by the member in charge that at the next vacancy such claims would be duly considered?

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A.—The Government did not ignore the claims of Muhammadans but considered them carefully.

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"May I know the names of Moslem members who were considered ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I am not prepared to give the names."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN SAHIB :—"May I know from the hon. Member whether, after considering the matter carefully, the Government is of the opinion that there are not competent Moslems to take the place of a High Court Judge in Madras ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I am not prepared to answer that question."

Mr. ABDUL HAMID KHAN SAHIB :—"May I know from the hon. the Law Member whether the Government has tried to find a Moslem either in this Presidency or elsewhere ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I am not able to add anything to the answer already given."

Rao Bahadur C. S. RATNASABHAPATI MUDALIYAR :—"The hon. Member need not give the names. May I ask how many names were considered ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"No, Sir I cannot give the information."

Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI :—"May I know whether the names of any Moslem gentlemen from other provinces have been considered ?"

The hon. Mr. A. Y. G. CAMPBELL :—"I am not prepared to answer any question of that sort."

Appointment of District and Sessions Judges.

* 719 *Q.*—Mr. B. RAMACHANDRA REDDI : Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that the names of Messrs. Abbas Ali Khan and N. Chandrasekhara Ayyar were before the Government for appointment as District Judges in June 1926 ; whether the appointments were not made on the ground that it was not advisable to appoint practising lawyers for temporary periods to such posts ;

(*b*) whether it is a fact that the then Law Member had written a series of letters to one of these two candidates to prepare himself for the appointment of a District Judgeship and that he would get the post by September 22nd ;

(*c*) whether it is a fact that the Moslem gentleman was practically assured by the Government of such appointment and that it was only on technical grounds that the appointment was not made at that time ;

(*d*) why the claims of the Moslem gentleman have now been overlooked and how a non-Moslem gentleman has been appointed to the post of City Civil Court Judge ; and